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HB 1420 RELATING TO EXPORT OF AQUARIUM FISH

Statement for
House Committee on
Ocean and Marine Resources
Public Hearing - February 17, 1989

By
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HB 1420 would amend Chapter 188 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to direct the Department of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules for monitoring the export of aquarium fish.

Our statement of this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

We assume that the present permit system for the capture and sale of aquarium fish under HRS 188-31 does not provide sufficient statutory language to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to allow them to require specific reporting mechanisms for the numbers of aquarium fish taken. Such information is certainly needed if informed management of the fishery resource is to be expected. Hence we concur with the intent and purpose of HB 1420.

We do, however, have a substantive amendment to suggest. Lines 8-9, stating that the "monthly count of the number of aquarium fish exported..." should be amended to "A monthly count of the number of of each species of aquarium fish exported shall be reported to the board."